

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EIND, HA

SUBJECT: TRANSLINEAR DEALINGS

1. DURING CONVERSATION ON DUPONT CARIBBEAN MATTERS ON AUGUST 22, WILLIAM CARDEN, PRESIDENT OF TRANSLINEAR, TOLD DEPT OFFICERS THAT FOLLOWING HAITIAN SUPREME COURT DECISION LAST JUNE, TRANSLINEAR CABLED PRESIDENT DUVALIER ASKING FOR: PERMISSION TO ENTER TORTUGA ISLAND, A RE-AFFIRMATION OF ITS LAND HOLDINGS, PERMISSION TO RESUME WORK, AND THE NEGOTIATION OF A DIRECT AGREEMENT COVERING TRANSLINEAR ACTIVITIES. CARDEN SAID THAT A NEW GROUP OF MINORITY STOCKHOLDERS HAS BECOME VERY ACTIVE IN TRANSLINEAR MANAGEMENT AND HAS HIRED AN AGGRESSIVE LAW FIRM TO SUPPORT ITS VIEWS. HE CLAIMED THAT THEY ARE DISSATISFIED OVER THE LONG DELAY IN BEING ABLE TO SERVICE VALUABLE EQUIPMENT ON ISLAND AND TO GET ON WITH ACTIVITIES IN HAITI. AT ONE POINT CARDEN STATED THAT THIS GROUP IS THREATENING TO MAKE AN "EXPROPRIATION CLAIM" IF PROGRESS IS NOT MADE WITH THE GOH BY SEPTEMBER 24. AT ANOTHER

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POINT HE SAID APPROPRIATE HAITIAN OFFICIALS WERE AWARE

THAT TRANSLINEAR "EXPECTS" TO BE IN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS
WITH GOH BY SEPTEMBER 1.

2. BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR EMBASSY TO RAISE AGAIN
WITH GOH TRANSLINEAR DESIRE FOR ACCESS TO ITS MACHINERY

ON THE ISLAND. SINCE DEPT POSITION HAS BEEN TO AVOID
INVOLVEMENT IN THE MERITS OF THE DUPONT CARIBBEAN-
TRANSLINEAR DISPUTE, EMBASSY SHOULD GO NO FURTHER. KISSINGER

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